

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. ROBB):

S. 1277. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a new prospective payment system for Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. 1278. A bill to amend the Tennessee Valley Authority Act of 1933 to modify provisions relating to the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KERREY (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1279. A bill to improve the environmental quality and public use and appreciation of the Missouri River and to provide additional authority to the Army Corps of Engineers to protect, enhance, and restore fish and wildlife habitat on the Missouri River; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BRYAN:

S. 1280. A bill to terminate the exemption of certain contractors and other entities from civil penalties for violations of nuclear safety requirements under Atomic Energy Act of 1954; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 1281. A bill to consolidate in a single independent agency in the executive branch the responsibilities regarding food safety, labeling, and inspection currently divided among several Federal agencies; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 1282. An original bill making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. HUTCHINSON:

S. 1283. An original bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. NICKLES:

S. 1284. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any suppliers; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 1285. A bill to amend section 40102(37) of title 49, United States Code, to modify the definition of the term "public aircraft" to provide for certain law enforcement and emergency response activities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1286. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to local educational agencies to carry out school violence preven-

tion and school safety activities in secondary schools; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1287. An original bill to provide for the storage of spent nuclear fuel pending completion of the nuclear waste repository, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; placed on the calendar.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ROBB:

S. Con. Res. 42. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued by the United States Postal Service honoring the members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 1273. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

### FEDERAL POWER ACT OF AMENDMENTS OF 1999

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the electricity restructuring bill I introduced in the last Congress. I offer the bill today because the Energy and Natural Resources Committee will be holding two legislative hearings next week on the pending electricity restructuring bills, and I want this bill to be included in the discussions. With the exception of two typographical corrections, the text of the bill is identical to S. 1276, which I introduced in the last Congress.

The bill has three principal legislative objectives: (1) clarifying the line between state and federal jurisdiction, (2) strengthening the reliability of the transmission system, and (3) ensuring fair access to the interstate transmission grid. When I introduced the bill in the last Congress it received wide support as the nucleus of the most critical issues that Congress must address in any restructuring legislation.

As many Senators are aware, I am working with the chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, my good friend Senator MURKOWSKI, on developing a consensus electricity bill that can be marked up and reported to the full Senate. Although I had expected that we would be further along in the process by now, I remain fully committed to following this bipartisan course. My introduction of this bill should not impeded that process.

Much has happened in the electric utility industry since this bill was first

drafted nearly two years ago. There are now six approved regional transmission operators, and several more are on the drawing boards. Twenty-two states, including New Mexico, have implemented some form of electric competition and two more may pass legislation this year. And there is now industry-wide consensus on the importance of federal legislation to assure the continued security and reliability of the nation's high-tension transmission grid.

Mr. President, I continue to see a strong need for federal electricity legislation so that states that have elected retail competition can fully enjoy all of the benefits that completion brings. In addition, improvements in federal regulation will streamline wholesale markets in every state. At the same time, I believe Congress should not enact federal legislation that disrupts existing state laws or that forces unwilling states to restructure.

I also have increasing concern about the mounting cloud of litigation pending in the federal courts that could frustrate the development of healthy wholesale and retail markets. Only Congress can clear up jurisdictional issues and let competitive markets fully develop. Interstate transmission must be a federal responsibility.

Mr. President, I believe we now have a consensus on the core issues that Congress must address. The Energy Committee held an oversight hearing last month on the status of restructuring in the states. There was nearly universal agreement among the witnesses on the need for federal legislation addressing interstate transmission and federal-state jurisdiction.

I look forward to the legislative hearings next week on this and other bills and to reporting bi-partisan electricity legislation that can pass the Senate this year.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1273

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Power Act Amendments of 1999".

### SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF JURISDICTION.

(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Section 201(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824(a)) is amended by—

(1) inserting after "transmission of electric energy in interstate commerce" the following: "including the unbundled transmission of electric energy sold at retail,"; and

(2) striking "such Federal regulation, however, to extend only to those matters which are not subject to regulation by the States." and inserting the following: "such Federal regulation shall not extend, however, to the bundled retail sale of electric energy or to